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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/19/2006

SPONSOR Stewart LAST UPDATED _____ HB 0056

SHORT TITLE Opiate Replacement Therapy for Inmates SB _____

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY06	FY07		
	250.0	Non-Rec	General Funds

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to the appropriation for the Corrections Department in the General Appropriation Act of 2006.

Duplicates Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act
 Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Responses Received From

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill:

House Bill 56 appropriates \$250,000 from the General fund to the Corrections Department for the purpose of ...expenditure in FY 2007 and FY 2008 for the an opiate replacement therapy for inmates pilot project,, utilizing buprenorphine/naloxone, to fifty women, with histories of opiate addiction, who are about to be released on parole from the NM Women’s Correctional Facility in Grants.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$250,000 contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the General Fund for expenditures in FYs 2007 and 2008. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

This bill appropriates an additional \$250,000 to the Corrections Department while adding a significant number of requirements on the Correction Department and the Department of Health in administering this pilot project.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

HB 56 does not provide performance standards but it outlines an entire evaluation process for subjects and controls including the collection of data on:

1. recidivism,
2. levels of use of psychotropic medications,
3. urine drug screens,
4. infections, self-inflicted injury and medical care,
5. changes in physical, mental health, employment status and other quality of life indicators; and
6. adherence to opiate replacement therapy.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The Corrections Department and the Department of Health are require to report independently to the appropriate interim legislative committee on the evaluations, treatments, and outcomes by December 1, 2007 and December 1, 2008.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

Buprenorphine (Subutex) and buprenorphine and naloxone (Suboxone) are used to treat opioid dependence (addiction to opioid drugs, including heroin and narcotic painkillers). Buprenorphine is in a class of medications called opioid partial agonist-antagonists, and naloxone is in a class of medications called opioid antagonists. Buprenorphine alone and the combination of buprenorphine and naloxone prevent withdrawal symptoms when someone stops taking opioid drugs by producing similar effects to these drugs.

BM/mt